

2022 MONTANA MEDICAL EXAMINER'S REPORT  
April 30, 2023



## **OVERVIEW:**

The Montana Medical Examiner's Office (MTMEO) is a section within the Montana Department of Justice, Forensic Science Division. It was created in 1980 to provide death investigation resources for county coroners, law enforcement agencies, and county attorneys on behalf of Montana's citizens. Montana is the fourth largest state in the United States, encompassing 147,040 square miles, and has an estimated population of 1,122,867 for 2022. This report summarizes the statistical results of the MTMEO cases performed during the 2022 calendar year.

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## **OUR VISION STATEMENT:**

We strive to create a partnership between Medical Examiners and Coroners to promote the health, well-being, and safety of the citizens of Montana through education, service, and compassionate, professional death investigation.

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## **RECENT PROJECTS COMPLETED:**

The Montana Medical Examiner's office recently completed the following projects and goals:

- Awarded full NAME accreditation in June 2021
  - Filled grant-funded Coroner Liaison position in August 2021
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## **CURRENT PROJECTS:**

The Montana Medical Examiner's office is currently focused on the following projects and goals:

- Continue to train coroners and increase usage of ImageTrend, the Statewide death investigation database, and improve the program to fit coroner needs.
  - Actively promote opportunities to continuously improve death investigation and establish more uniform practices among the counties.
  - Partner in the National Center on Forensics grant through NIJ along with George Mason University, the American Society of Clinical Pathologists, and the National Association of Attorney Generals, which includes a Coroner Liaison position and training for medical and pathology students.
  - Develop online training resources for coroners.
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## **SUMMARY OF 2022:**

In 2022 the Montana Medical Examiner's Office employed four forensic pathologists, two autopsy assistants, and two part-time autopsy assistants. Administrative support was provided by the Forensic Science Division. Two pathologists work at the primary State crime laboratory in Missoula to serve the needs of coroners in western Montana. Two pathologists work at the satellite State crime laboratory in Billings to serve the needs of coroners in Eastern Montana. During calendar year 2022 a total of 834 postmortem examinations were performed (Missoula 475, Billings 359), which is consistent with the prior year, and 27% over 2019. Our pathologists responded to a limited number of scene investigations and recoveries. We provided court testimony and made educational presentations at the annual Montana Coroner Advanced and Basic Coroner trainings. Informational meetings took place with coroners, law enforcement, county attorneys, organ and tissue procurement agencies, and funeral directors.

We had 60 cases that involved COVID19 status inquiries, of which 9 were confirmed positive.

We had 35 cases considered legal interventions deaths, which involve either inmates or deaths occurring in presence of law enforcement.

In June 2021, the MTMEO was officially accredited for the first time through the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME).

Based on recommendations that appear in the Scientific Working Group on Medicolegal Death Investigation (SWGMDI) "an autopsy rate of one per 1000 population might be considered as a best-case scenario formula for ensuring that medicolegal autopsies are performed in numbers that need public health, public safety, justice system, medical quality assurance and other needs." Generally, the need for a postmortem examination (autopsy) in Montana is determined by the county coroner per Title 46, Chapter 4, Part 1 of Montana Code Annotated. NAME inspection data for all offices published in the SWGMDI 2013 report listed an average autopsy rate of 0.5 per 1,000 persons for offices of all types and 0.7 per 1,000 persons in facility surveys. Utilizing our current data, the autopsy rate per 1,000 population in Montana is 6.5% across all counties (2021). Some counties meet or exceed the 1.0 per 1,000 population recommendations while some counties are below the recommendations. Results by county are listed in Total Autopsies by County table beginning on page 3.

Montana death investigations are served through a county coroner system with support by the State Medical Examiner's office. The following statistical information represents *only* those cases that coroners delivered for autopsy or examination and cannot encompass all deaths in the State. At the discretion of county coroners, selected suicides, overdoses, traffic fatalities, and well-established natural deaths are not submitted for autopsy.

The following tables and graphs outline 2022 activity as well as comparisons to prior years:

### **2022 AUTOPSY CASE TYPES:**

Type	# Cases	% Total
External	77	9%
Full	689	83%
Partial	56	7%
Skeletal	12	1%
Exhumation	0	0%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>100%</b>

MTMEO received 15 cases of human remains in 2022 that are unidentified as of report date.

### **TOTAL AUTOPSIES BY COUNTY:**

Montana consists of 56 counties. Approximately 2/3 of the population resides in the western half of the State, which is served by the Missoula office. The eastern half contains the State's largest city, Billings, with a city population of 117,445 (2021). Vital Statistics does not yet have population and death statistics for 2022.

AUTOPSIES BY COUNTY								
County	2022 Autopsy Count	2021 Autopsy Count	2022 vs 2021 Autopsies	2022 % of Total Autopsies	Number of Deaths 2021*	2021 Autopsies % of Total Deaths	Population (2021)*	2021 Deaths % of Total County Population
Beaverhead	7	5	2	0.8%	129	3.9%	9524	1.4%
Big Horn	33	30	3	4.0%	91	33.0%	12957	0.7%
Blaine	3	4	-1	0.4%	44	9.1%	6980	0.6%
Broadwater	7	5	2	0.8%	50	10.0%	7288	0.7%
Butte/SB	41	37	4	4.9%	519	7.1%	35411	1.5%
Carbon	20	12	8	2.4%	68	17.6%	10847	0.6%
Carter		0	0	0.0%	5	0.0%	1428	0.4%

Cascade	38	34	4	4.6%	1381	2.5%	84511	1.6%
Chouteau	5	2	3	0.6%	36	5.6%	5916	0.6%
Custer	5	4	1	0.6%	123	3.3%	11916	1.0%
Daniels	1	0	1	0.1%	20	0.0%	1686	1.2%
Dawson	3	4	-1	0.4%	122	3.3%	8904	1.4%
Deer Lodge	8	4	4	1.0%	119	3.4%	9491	1.3%
Fallon	3	2	1	0.4%	29	6.9%	3017	1.0%
Fergus	10	10	0	1.2%	156	6.4%	11617	1.3%
Flathead	68	82	-14	8.2%	1416	5.8%	108454	1.3%
Gallatin	37	28	9	4.4%	666	4.2%	122713	0.5%
Garfield		2	-2	0.0%	15	13.3%	1209	1.2%
Glacier	23	15	8	2.8%	106	14.2%	13785	0.8%
Golden Valley	1	5	-4	0.1%	14	35.7%	831	1.7%
Granite	9	7	2	1.1%	29	24.1%	3344	0.9%
Hill	4	10	-6	0.5%	170	5.9%	16179	1.1%
Jefferson	5	3	2	0.6%	117	2.6%	12470	0.9%
Judith Basin		4	-4	0.0%	13	30.8%	2044	0.6%
Lake	57	47	10	6.8%	298	15.8%	32033	0.9%
Lewis&Clark	27	28	-1	3.2%	799	3.5%	72223	1.1%
Liberty		3	-3	0.0%	14	21.4%	1946	0.7%
Lincoln	7	4	3	0.8%	244	1.6%	20525	1.2%
Madison	5	3	2	0.6%	89	3.4%	8917	1.0%
McCone	1	1	0	0.1%	24	4.2%	1718	1.4%
Meagher	1	1	0	0.1%	15	6.7%	1964	0.8%
Mineral	3	2	1	0.4%	66	3.0%	4860	1.4%
Missoula	70	80	-10	8.4%	1353	5.9%	119533	1.1%
Musselshell	3	10	-7	0.4%	60	16.7%	4896	1.2%
Park	19	8	11	2.3%	199	4.0%	17473	1.1%
Petroleum		3	-3	0.0%	9	33.3%	519	1.7%
Phillips	2	3	-1	0.2%	42	7.1%	4192	1.0%
Pondera	2	3	-1	0.2%	46	6.5%	5994	0.8%
Powder River	2	2	0	0.2%	13	15.4%	1702	0.8%
Powell	10	15	-5	1.2%	67	22.4%	6999	1.0%
Prairie	1	1	0	0.1%	11	9.1%	1091	1.0%
Ravalli	30	39	-9	3.6%	493	7.9%	45959	1.1%
Richland	5	4	1	0.6%	111	3.6%	11283	1.0%
Roosevelt	17	17	0	2.0%	128	13.3%	10821	1.2%
Rosebud	12	14	-2	1.4%	69	20.3%	8124	0.8%
Sanders	19	5	14	2.3%	178	2.8%	12959	1.4%
Sheridan	1	4	-3	0.1%	46	8.7%	3527	1.3%
Stillwater	10	22	-12	1.2%	94	23.4%	9044	1.0%

Sweet Grass	4	5	-1	0.5%	36	13.9%	3723	1.0%
Teton	1	4	-3	0.1%	47	8.5%	6269	0.7%
Toole	1	7	-6	0.1%	44	15.9%	5011	0.9%
Treasure		1	-1	0.0%	3	33.3%	768	0.4%
Valley	5	4	1	0.6%	78	5.1%	7537	1.0%
Wheatland		1	-1	0.0%	19	5.3%	2059	0.9%
Wibaux	1	0	1	0.1%	16	0.0%	934	1.7%
Yellowstone	179	175	4	21.5%	2627	6.7%	167146	1.6%
Hospital/Other	8	11	-3	1.0%				
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>12,776</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>1,104,271</b>	<b>1.16%</b>

\*Source: Montana Vital Records and MT Census and Economic Bureau most recent confirmed numbers

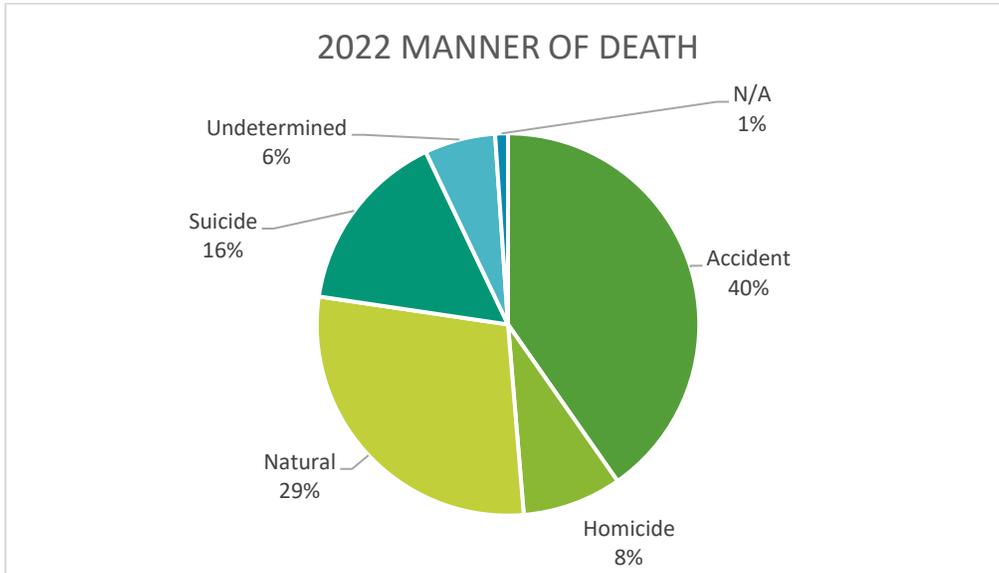
## MANNER OF DEATH:

Manner is used to distinguish whether a death is considered natural or unnatural. If deemed unnatural, the death is typically categorized as either accident, suicide, homicide, or in the absence of a clear result, undetermined.

## **AUTOPSIES BY MANNER:**

<b>MANNER</b>	<b>COUNT</b>	<b>% OF TOTAL</b>
ACCIDENT	336	40%
HOMICIDE	70	8%
NATURAL	239	29%
SUICIDE	130	16%
UNDETERMINED	50	6%
NOT APPLICABLE*	9	1%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*includes brain donations for research, fetal, and skeletal remains (including some non-human)



**LEGAL INTERVENTION DEATHS (IN CUSTODY OR PRESENCE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT):**

MANNER	# OF CASES	% OF TOTAL
HOMICIDE	7	20%
SUICIDE	9	26%
ACCIDENT	10	29%
NATURAL	6	17%
OTHER	3	9%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>100%</b>

**SEX DETAILS:**

SEX	COUNT	% OF TOTAL	2021 Population	Per 10,000 Population
Female	250	30%	545,001	4.6
Male	570	68%	559,270	10.2
Non-Human	5	1%	-	-
Unknown	9	1%	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,104,271</b>	<b>7.6</b>



<b>2022 MANNER BY SEX</b>			
<b>MANNER</b>	<b>FEMALE</b>	<b>MALE</b>	<b>UNKNOWN</b>
ACCIDENT	110	225	1
HOMICIDE	20	50	-
NATURAL	86	153	-
SUICIDE	21	109	-
UNDETERMINED	12	32	6
NOT APPLICABLE	1	1	7
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>% OF TOTAL</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>2%</b>

### **ANCESTRY:**

Based upon Montana's Census and Economic Information Center, the following ancestry groups comprise Montana's population in 2021: Caucasian 85.5%, Native American 6.7%, Hispanic 3.3%, Asian/Pacific Islander 1.0%, Black/African American 0.6%, and Multi Race 3.0%.

Although comprising 14.5% of the population, non-Caucasian citizens accounted for 41% of homicides, 15% of autopsied suicides, 24% of autopsied accidents, and 21% of autopsied overdoses in 2022. In addition, and significantly, for deaths of children and youth under 20 years, non-Caucasians represented 35% of the total cases.

<b>2021 Population Data</b>		
<b>Type</b>	<b>Population 2021</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
Caucasian	943,656	85.5%
Native American	73,548	6.7%
Black	6,894	0.6%
Asian	11,153	1.0%
Hispanic	36,359	3.3%
Multi	32,661	3.0%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,104,271</b>	<b>100%</b>

**AUTOPSY TOTALS BY ANCESTRY:**

Ancestry	# of Cases	% of Total
Hispanic	9	1.1%
Unknown	15	1.8%
Native American/Alaskan	150	18.0%
Caucasian	638	76.5%
Asian	5	0.6%
Black	10	1.2%
Multi	2	0.2%
Non-Human (skeletal)	5	0.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>100%</b>

**ANCESTRY BY SELECTED MANNER:**

Ancestry	Accident	% of Total	Homicide	% of Total	Suicide	% of Total	Overdose	% of Total
Caucasian	255	75.9%	41	58.6%	110	84.6%	112	77.8%
Black	2	0.6%	3	4.3%	1	0.8%	1	0.7%
Hispanic	7	2.1%	0		0		1	0.7%
Native American	65	19.3%	25	35.7%	18	13.8%	27	18.8%
Asian	2	0.6%	0		1	0.8%	1	0.7%
Multi	1	0.3%	0		0		0	
Unknown	4	1.2%	1	1.4%	0		2	1.4%
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100%</b>

**HOMICIDES PER 10,000 POPULATION BY ANCESTRY:**

Ancestry	Homicide	% Total	Per 10,000 Population
Caucasian	41	59%	0.4
Black	3	4%	4.4
Native American	25	36%	3.4
Unknown	1	1%	
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0.6</b>

Date



**CHILD UNDER 20 DEATHS PER 10,000 POPULATION BY ANCESTRY:**

Ancestry	# Cases	% Total	Per 10,000 Population
Caucasian	51	62%	2.4
Native American	27	33%	9.6
Asian	1	1%	4.1
Black	1	1%	5.0
Multi/Unknown	2	2%	1.4
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3.2</b>

**2022 CASE ANCESTRY BY COUNTY FOR TOP COUNTIES:**

County	# of Cases	% of Total Cases	Caucasian	Native American	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Multi	Unknown
Yellowstone	179	21.5%	142	29		6	1	1	
Missoula	70	8.4%	56	3	1		3	1	3
Flathead	68	8.2%	65	1					2
Lake	57	6.8%	34	21					1
Butte - Silver Bow	41	4.9%	35	2	2	2			
Cascade	38	4.6%	25	11		1			1
Gallatin	37	4.4%	35	0					2
Big Horn	33	4.0%	10	21			1		1
Ravalli	30	3.6%	28	1					1
Lewis & Clark	27	3.2%	24	0	1		1		1
Glacier	23	2.8%	3	20					
Carbon	20	2.4%	19	1					
Sanders	19	2.3%	13	2	1				2
Park	19	2.3%	17	1					1
Roosevelt	17	2.0%	2	14			1		
Rosebud	12	1.4%	5	7					
Powell	10	1.2%	10	0					
Fergus	10	1.2%	8	1		1			
<b>Total</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>85.1%</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>

**AGE RANGES OF DECEDENTS BY MANNER:**

AGE	MANNER	# OF CASES	% OF 834 (HUMAN) CASES
Infants</=2 years	Accident	5	
	Homicide	2	
	Natural	9	
	Undetermined	12	
		<b>28</b>	<b>3%</b>
Child 3-12	Accident	9	
	Homicide	3	
	Natural	3	
		<b>15</b>	<b>2%</b>
Teen 13-19	Accident	16	
	Homicide	6	
	Natural	4	
	Suicide	12	
	Undetermined	1	
	<b>39</b>	<b>5%</b>	
Adult 20-65	Accident	265	
	Homicide	55	
	Natural	180	
	Suicide	95	
	Undetermined	27	
	<b>622</b>	<b>75%</b>	
Adult Senior 66+	Accident	41	
	Homicide	4	
	Natural	43	
	Suicide	23	
	Undetermined	5	
	<b>116</b>	<b>14%</b>	
Unknown Age	N/A	<b>8</b>	
	Undetermined	6	
		<b>14</b>	<b>1.7%</b>

## **DEATHS ATTRIBUTABLE TO ALCOHOL OR DRUG INTOXICATION:**

Medical Examiners performed 834 autopsies in death investigation cases. The toxicology section would have performed testing on most of the cases. It was determined that 144 of these cases had toxicology results impacting the direct cause of death. Below is a breakdown of the identified substances and corresponding drug results. *The data below does not include deaths where the coroner did not have an autopsy performed.*

<b>2022 TOXICOLOGY-RELATED CASE BREAKDOWN BY CAUSE OF DEATH (AUTOPSIED ONLY)</b>		
<b>CAUSE OF DEATH</b>	<b># OF CASES</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>Acute Ethanol Intoxication</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Complications of chronic ethanol use</b>	<b>34</b>	
<b>Acute Single Drug Intoxication</b>	<b>58</b>	
Methamphetamine	21	42% decrease in acute deaths over 2021
Fentanyl/Para-fluoro fentanyl	25	21 fentanyl only OD in 2021 (+19%), 5 fentanyl only OD in 2020 (+400%)
Heroin	0	
Cocaine	1	
Oxycodone	3	
methadone	3	
amitriptyline	1	
salicylate	1	
cyclobenzaprine	1	
pregabalin	1	
dextromethorhan	1	
<b>Acute, Poly-Drug Combination</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>some cases may fall into multiple categories</b>
	42	Methamphetamine (compared to 23 in 2021, +83%)
	52	Fentanyl (compared to 28 in 2021, +86%)
	1	Heroin
	2	Cocaine
	6	Oxycodone
	5	Hydrocodone
	6	Methadone
	5	Mitragynine
	8	Gabapentin
<b>Drugs not direct, but contributory to cause of death</b>	<b>24</b>	
<b>Inhalant Intoxication</b>	<b>0</b>	

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**OVERDOSE DEATHS BY COUNTY- TOP 10\***

County	# of Cases	% Total OD
Yellowstone	25	17%
Butte-Silverbow	15	10%
Flathead	15	10%
Cascade	14	10%
Lake	12	8%
Missoula	12	8%
Lewis & Clark	8	6%
Gallatin	6	4%
Glacier	5	3%
Park	5	3%
Carbon	3	2%

\*Carbon monoxide cases not included

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**SUICIDES AND HOMICIDES ATTRIBUTABLE TO FIREARMS:**

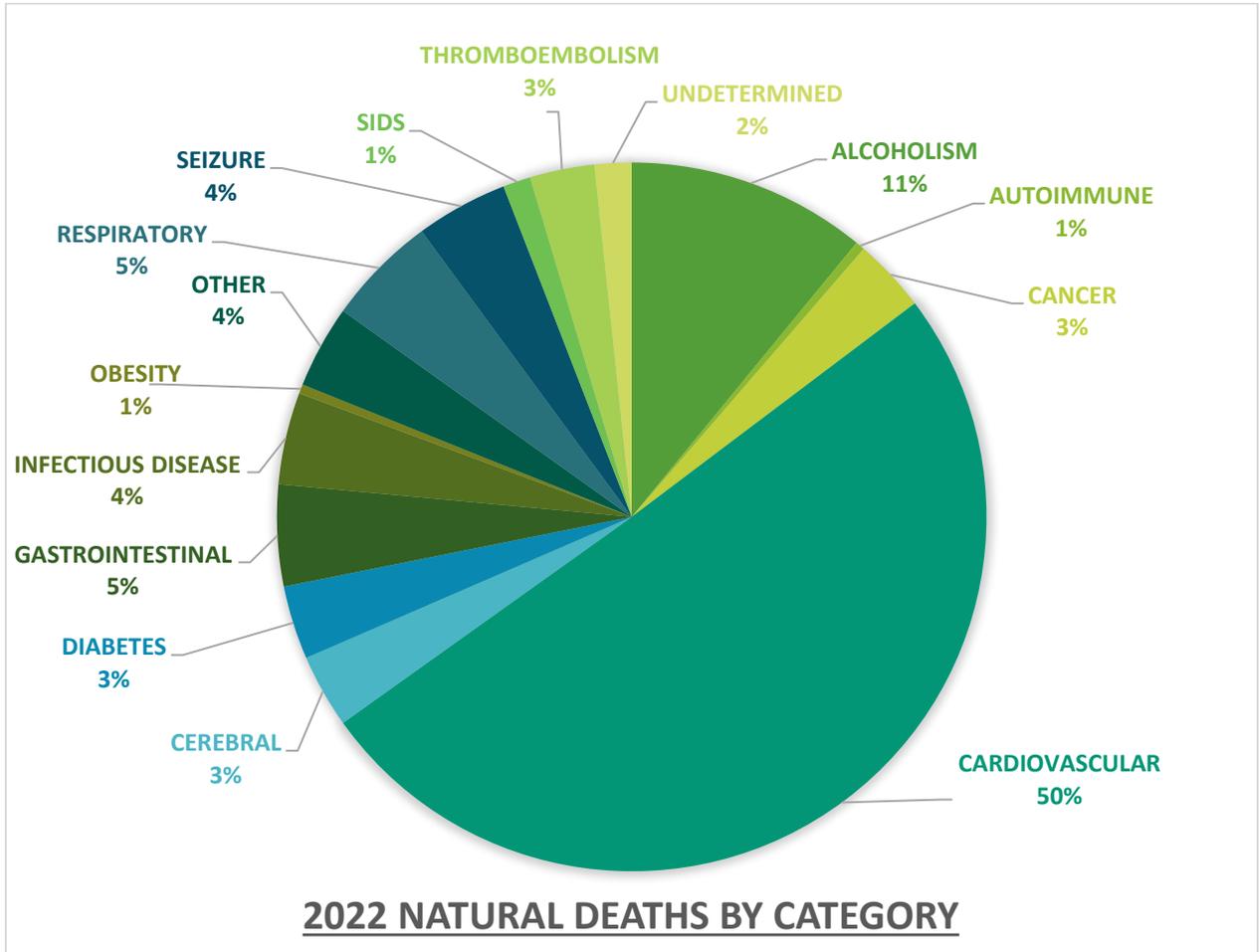
In 2022, 69% of the homicide cases, 64% of the autopsied suicides, and 16% of all MTMEO casework involved a firearm.

Manner	# of Cases
Accident	1
Homicide	48
Suicide	83
Undetermined	2
Total	134
% Total Cases	16%

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**NATURAL DEATHS BY CATEGORY:**

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b># OF CASES</b>
ALCOHOLISM	26
AUTOIMMUNE	1
CANCER	8
CARDIOVASCULAR	120
CEREBRAL	8
DIABETES	8
GASTROINTESTINAL	11
INFECTIOUS DISEASE	10
OBESITY	1
OTHER	10
RESPIRATORY	12
SEIZURE	10
SIDS	3
THROMBOEMBOLISM	7
UNDETERMINED	4
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>239</b>
% of Total Cases	29%



**2022 TURN-AROUND TIMES:**

Turn-Around Time represents the number of days between the postmortem examination and the completion of the autopsy report. 92% of our reports in 2022 were completed within 90 days. We attained our goal to complete 90% of our cases in 90 days.

LESS THAN 60	516	62%
60-90	251	30%
91-120	45	5%
OVER 120	22	3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>100%</b>

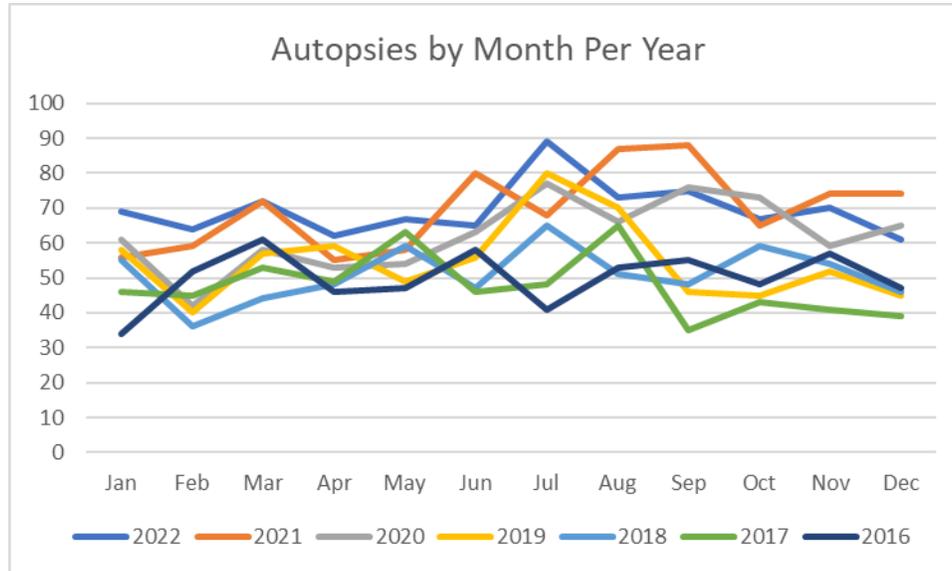
## **SEVEN YEAR TRENDS (2016-2022)**

The Montana State Medical Examiner's office initiated a process to maintain better statistical information beginning in 2015. We have now completed 7 years with which we can make annual comparisons and watch for trends. Again, these comparisons are only based on the cases submitted to the office and not all investigated deaths in the State.

<b>AUTOPSIES BY TYPE PER YEAR</b>							
<b>Type</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
Full	689	706	660	570	546	530	540
Partial	56	45	35	28	20	15	12
External	77	74	41	47	37	22	37
Skeletal	12	11	11	11	8	7	10
Disinterred	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Coroner Case Review	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
<b>TOTAL CASES</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>599</b>

## **AUTOPSIES BY MONTH PER YEAR:**

<b>Month</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
Jan	69	56	61	58	55	46	34
Feb	64	59	42	40	36	45	52
Mar	72	72	58	57	44	53	61
Apr	62	55	53	59	48	49	46
May	67	58	54	49	59	63	47
Jun	65	80	63	56	47	46	58
Jul	89	68	77	80	65	48	41
Aug	73	87	66	70	51	65	53
Sep	75	88	76	46	48	35	55
Oct	67	65	73	45	59	43	48
Nov	70	74	59	52	54	41	57
Dec	61	74	65	45	46	39	47
<b>Total</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>599</b>

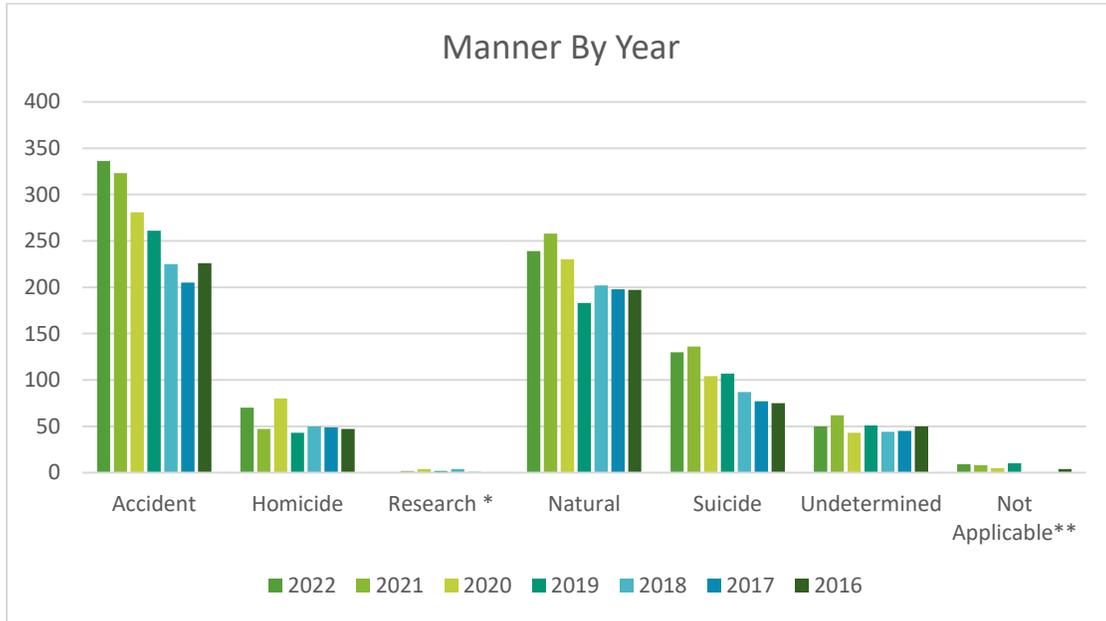


**MANNER OF DEATH BY YEAR:**

MANNER	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Accident	336	323	281	261	225	205	226
Homicide	70	47	80	43	50	49	47
Research *	0	2	4	2	4	1	
Natural	239	258	230	183	202	198	197
Suicide	130	136	104	107	87	77	75
Undetermined	50	62	43	51	44	45	50
Not Applicable**	9	8	5	10			4
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>599</b>

\*Brain Removals

\*\*Skeletal, fetal human and non-human remains



**DEATHS UNDER 20 YEARS BY MANNER:**

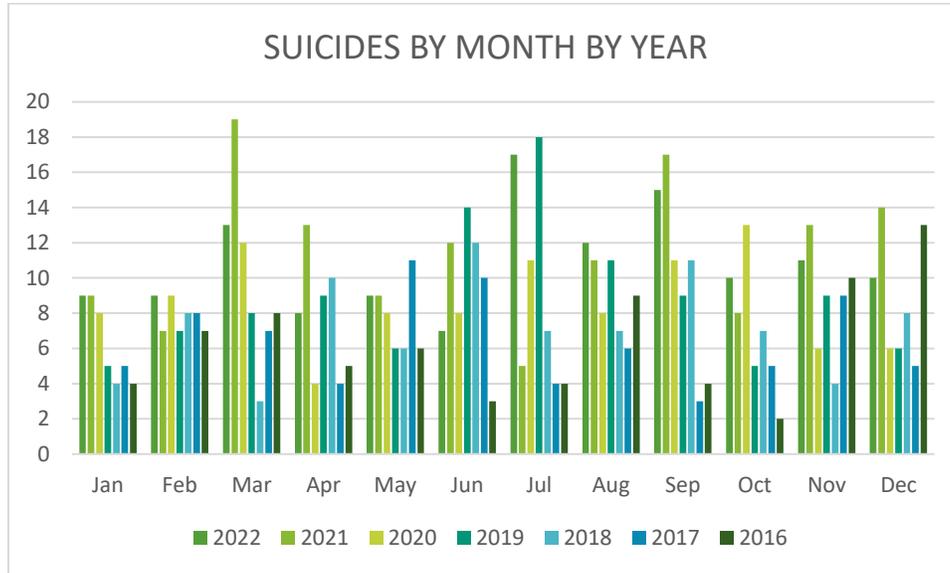
AGE	MANNER	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Infants<=2 years	Accident	5	4	6	4	4	4	7
	Homicide	2	1	3	4	3	5	6
	Natural	9	4	7	2	3	5	5
	Undetermined	12	17	14	18	13	16	15
Child 3-12	Accident	9	2	5	3	7	3	4
	Homicide	3	4	4	2	1	0	3
	Natural	3	0	0	4	2	0	2
	Undetermined	0	1	1	1	2	0	0
	Suicide	0	3	1	0	0	0	1
Teen 13-19	Accident	16	25	12	12	11	4	12
	Homicide	6	2	6	2	0	1	3
	Natural	4	5	1	3	5	3	2
	Suicide	12	11	7	11	6	5	3
	Undetermined	1	1	2	1	2	2	0
<b>Grand Totals</b>		<b>82</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>63</b>

**FIREARM DEATHS BY MANNER BY YEAR**

MANNER	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Accident	1	1	1	2			
Homicide	48	32	45	30	24	25	25
Suicide	83	81	62	65	48	51	46
Undetermined	2	4	3	1	1	3	3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>74</b>
% OF TOTAL CASES	16%	14%	15%	14%	12%	14%	12%

**SUICIDES BY MONTH PER YEAR:**

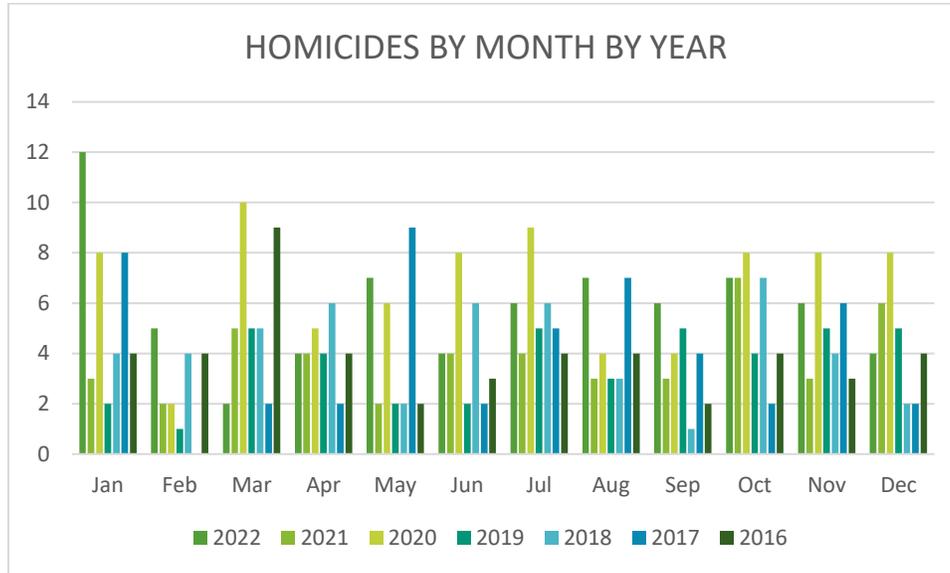
Month	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Jan	9	9	8	5	4	5	4
Feb	9	7	9	7	8	8	7
Mar	13	19	12	8	3	7	8
Apr	8	13	4	9	10	4	5
May	9	9	8	6	6	11	6
Jun	7	12	8	14	12	10	3
Jul	17	5	11	18	7	4	4
Aug	12	11	8	11	7	6	9
Sep	15	17	11	9	11	3	4
Oct	10	8	13	5	7	5	2
Nov	11	13	6	9	4	9	10
Dec	10	14	6	6	8	5	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>75</b>



**HOMICIDES BY MONTH PER YEAR:**

Month	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Jan	12	3	8	2	4	8	4
Feb	5	2	2	1	4	0	4
Mar	2	5	10	5	5	2	9
Apr	4	4	5	4	6	2	4
May	7	2	6	2	2	9	2
Jun	4	4	8	2	6	2	3
Jul	6	4	9	5	6	5	4
Aug	7	3	4	3	3	7	4
Sep	6	3	4	5	1	4	2
Oct	7	7	8	4	7	2	4
Nov	6	3	8	5	4	6	3
Dec	4	6	8	5	2	2	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>47</b>

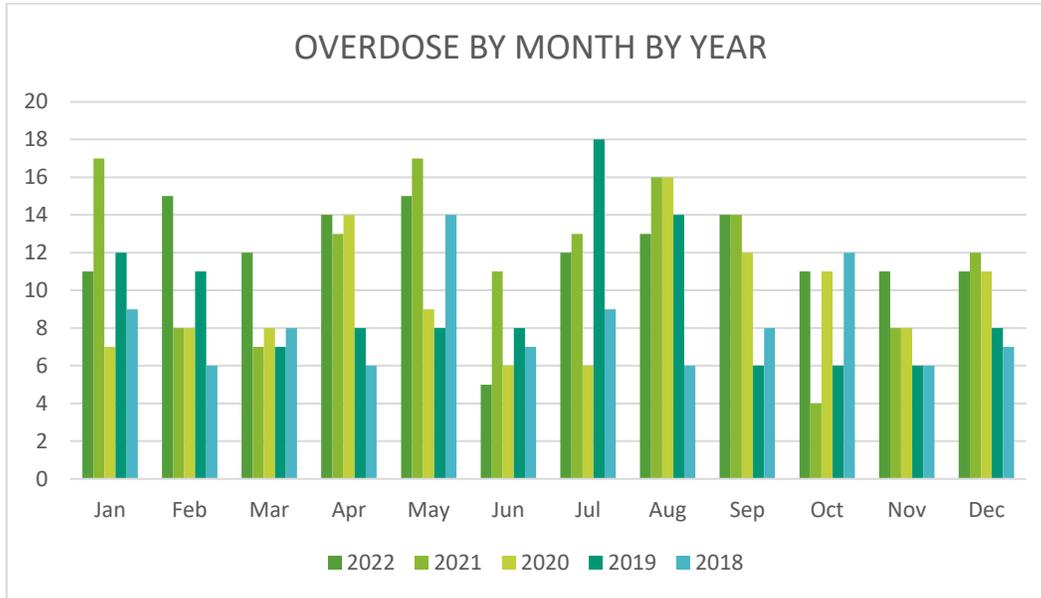




**OVERDOSE DEATHS BY MONTH PER YEAR:**

Month	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Jan	11	17	7	12	9	9	8
Feb	15	8	8	11	6	10	5
Mar	12	7	8	7	8	10	14
Apr	14	13	14	8	6	4	10
May	15	17	9	8	14	12	8
Jun	5	11	6	8	7	5	8
Jul	12	13	6	18	9	8	11
Aug	13	16	16	14	6	6	8
Sep	14	14	12	6	8	5	6
Oct	11	4	11	6	12	8	6
Nov	11	8	8	6	6	2	8
Dec	11	12	11	8	7	8	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>98</b>





**OVERDOSE DEATHS BY COUNTY PER YEAR-TOP 5 COUNTIES\*:**

COUNTY	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Yellowstone	25	52	25	31	23	22	18
Butte	15	16	8	6	6	3	10
Flathead	15	11	10	6	9	6	12
Lake	12	10	2	5	2	5	3
Missoula	12	10	11	10	11	11	14

\*Reminder: only coroner submitted autopsies and may not reflect comprehensive county data

**HOMICIDE DEATHS BY COUNTY PER YEAR**

COUNTY	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Beaverhead			2				
Big Horn	3	1	2		1	6	2
Blaine	1	1					
Broadwater				1		1	
Butte/SilverBow	1	2	1				4
Carter						1	
Carbon	1		1		1		4
Cascade	7	4	3	6	5	8	5
Chouteau	1						1
Custer				1	1		

Dawson						1	
Deer Lodge	1		1		1	1	1
Fergus	2		1				
Flathead	6	4	7	4	4	1	2
Gallatin	4	2	1	3	1	3	4
Glacier	4		5		2	3	1
Granite							1
Hill		2		2	1		1
Jefferson						1	
Judith Basin		1					
Lake	3	1	5	3	2	1	1
Lewis & Clark	2	1	1	2	5	3	4
Liberty							1
Lincoln	2	1	1	2		2	2
Madison			1	1			
Missoula	2	8	10	3	5	5	1
Musselshell							1
Park	2	1					2
Phillips					1		1
Pondera	1				1		
Powell	1			1			
Petroleum		1					
Ravalli		2	6	1		1	
Richland	1			2			1
Roosevelt	1		4		1	2	4
Rosebud	2	3	4		1		2
Sanders			2		2	1	
Stillwater		1	1				
Sweetgrass			1				
Teton		1					
Toole				2			
Valley					1		
Yellowstone	22	9	20	9	14	8	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>47</b>

**SUICIDE DEATHS BY COUNTY PER YEAR**

COUNTY	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Beaverhead		1			1		2
Big Horn	2	3	4	2	4	1	1
Blaine				1			
Broadwater		1	1	2	1		
Butte/Silver Bow	6	6	3	3		1	6
Carbon	3	4	1	4	1		
Carter						1	
Cascade	6	2	3	1	3	4	4
Chouteau							1
Custer			1				1
Daniels						1	1
Dawson		1		1	2		
Deer Lodge	1		4	2	1	3	1
Fallon							1
Fergus	2		4	1		1	
Flathead	10	14	9	7	4	4	3
Gallatin	3	6	2	7	3	2	2
Garfield			1				
Glacier	3	3	4	2	4	1	2
Golden Valley	1		1				
Granite	2	1			1	1	2
Hill		1	2	1	1	1	
Jefferson	1		2	1			
Judith Basin		1					
Lake	12	9	8	5	7	9	6
Lewis & Clark	3	7	5	3	12	3	2
Lincoln			1				
Liberty							1
Madison	1	1		1		1	
Meagher		1					
Mineral	1					1	
Missoula	6	14	10	7	8	9	11
Musselshell		2	2		3		3
Park	2	2	1	1	1	2	2
Phillips	1						
Powder	2	2					
Powell		2	2	1	1		
Prairie						1	1

<b>Ravalli</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Richland</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>			
<b>Roosevelt</b>				<b>2</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Rosebud</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Sanders</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>			<b>2</b>	
<b>Sheridan</b>		<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>			
<b>Stillwater</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Sweetgrass</b>			<b>1</b>				<b>1</b>
<b>Toole</b>	<b>1</b>						<b>3</b>
<b>Valley</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>					
<b>Wheatland</b>					<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Yellowstone</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>75</b>

Questions or inquiries regarding the information provided in this report can be addressed by contacting our main office at:

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Date

